

The Board of Examiners for Nursing held a meeting on April 1, 2009 at the Department of Public Health Complex, Room 470-C, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Amanda Campbell, RN
Veronica Kivela, Public Member
Merrily Moynihan, Public Member
Katherine Pellerin, RN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN
Donna Roberts, LPN
Ivelisse Varrone, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Heidi Darling, LPN

ALSO PRESENT: Tanya DeMattia, Assistant Attorney General
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Diane Cybulski, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Donna Canalis, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Roberta A. Swafford, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from A.I. Prince LPN Program and the UConn Master's Program.

Chair Bouffard provided the students with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs.

CHAIR UPDATES

- Chair Bouffard presented a class on the functions/duties of the BOEN At Naugatuck Valley
- Chair Bouffard will attend the May 6 & 7, 2009 NCSBN Executive Officer's Meeting in Chicago

OPEN FORUM

There were no comments from the audience.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

- NCSBN RN Test Plan – comments to Donna Canalis by the end of the week
- Sacred Heart University receipt of official transcript
- Connecticut Community College Evaluation Summary – discussed at the next meeting
- Committee to discuss issues with Pearson Vue Testing

H.A.V.E.N. PROGRAM UPDATE

Attorney Maureen Dinnan, Executive Director of the H.A.V.E.N. Program was present, along with Linda Barile, APRN, PHD, Volunteer Professional Director, to report to the Board H.A.V.E.N.'s annual reporting responsibilities. Attorney Dinnan provided an overview of the program. Amanda Campbell arrived during this presentation. Presently in the program there are 50 MDs, 52 Nurses (RNs 35, LPNs 13, APRNs 2, and 2 referred to DPH) 5 Dentists including Hygienists, 5 Veterinarians, 1 Podiatrist, 1 Respiratory Therapist, and 1 Social Worker. All together there have been 15 new referrals to the program in 2009. H.A.V.E.N.'s goals are early intervention, improve communication, and to also get the Web Site up and running.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kathy Boulware updated the Board on legislation. Licensure fees will probably double by July 1, 2009. The Board stated that Connecticut has the highest renewal fees in the country. Also the Board would like more information on Governor's Bill 6375 regarding the termination of some of the Boards.

SCHOOL ISSUES – E.C. GOODWIN – NCLEX PLAN OF CORRECTION

Ted Moskowitz, Department Head, was present with Patricia Fennessy, LPN Program Consultant, to discuss the NCLEX Plan of Correction. Mr. Moskowitz presented the program to the Board. Their next graduating class will be January, 2010 at which time the Board will review the NCLEX pass rate. Katherine Pellerin moved and Amanda Campbell seconded to accept the Plan of Correction. The motion passed unanimously.

SCHOOL ISSUES - LINCOLN TECHNICAL SCHOOL – NOTICES OF INTENT TO START RN/LPN PROGRAMS

JoAnn Dean, Lincoln Tech Program Administrator, was present to provide the Board with their notices of intent to start their first Associate Degree Nursing Program at Briarwood College in Southington, Connecticut and another LPN Day Program at a new location at the Connecticut Culinary Institute (CCI) in Suffield, Connecticut.

LPN PROGRAM

Lincoln Tech's plan for CCI is to expand the scope of program offerings to include Allied Health and will eventually rename the school to reflect the new programs. Upon completion of the Feasibility Study they will submit their application for approval to the Department of Higher Education. They anticipate starting classes for this day program in March 2010. They expect 50 students for the first class and anticipate the projected enrollment in the next three years to be 50 students per class four times per year. Since Suffield borders Massachusetts, they are asking the Board's approval to do clinical rotations in Massachusetts as well as Connecticut. Faculty would have to be licensed in both Connecticut and Massachusetts and CCI would need to have contracts in place with each facility, agency, or school used as a clinical site. The Board advised that the school contact the Massachusetts State Board of Nursing for their input, which has been done. The Massachusetts Board informed Lincoln Tech that instructors will need dual licensure in both states.

RN PROGRAM

Upon completion of the Feasibility Study Lincoln Technical will submit their application for approval to the Department of Higher Education. They anticipate starting classes for the RN day program in July 2010. They will be accepting 50 students for the first class with a projected enrollment in the next three years to be 50 students per class four times per year. In addition, they will also be accepting LPNs who meet the articulation requirements and successfully completed the articulation and transition courses. Pending approval, they plan to apply for accreditation of the program through the NLNAC.

SCHOOL ISSUES - SOUTHERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY WAIVER REQUEST

At the February business meeting the Board granted a temporary waiver for J. Toland pending receipt of an official transcript which has not yet been received.

SCHOOL ISSUES - DISCONTINUATION OF LPN REFRESHER COURSE IN KENT, WASHINGTON

The Board Office received a letter from Patricia L. Truit stating that she is discontinuing the Self-Study LPN Refresher Course. She has not accepted any new enrollments in the refresher course since December 1, 2008. She will give full and complete service to all students who are currently enrolled in the course until their completion – which usually takes nine to twelve months. At that time she will fully retire from providing the refresher course. CT has one student currently enrolled in the course. Ms. Truit is seeking a buyer for her business and understands that anyone who continues this course would need to apply for approval or acceptance as a provider in CT.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE – CORRESPONDENCE & STATISTICS ON INQUIRIES

Diane Cybulski reviewed the scope of practice calls received in the Board Office during the month of February.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE – NURSES TAKING ORDERS FROM A PODIATRIST IN A HOME-HEALTH-CARE SETTING

Diane Cybulski discussed this with the Board. This will be placed on the May 6, 2009 agenda for further discussion. This is currently under review at the Office of the Attorney General.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING UPDATES

Chair Bouffard will be attending the Executive Officers Meeting in Chicago on May 6 and 7, 2009.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FEBRUARY 4, 2009

Katherine Pellerin moved and Amanda Campbell seconded that the minutes be approved as written. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Ivelisse Varrone, Maria Pietrantuono, and Merrily Moynihan.

FEBRUARY 18, 2009

Mary Brown moved and Donna Roberts seconded that the minutes be approved as written. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Ivelisse Varrone, Merrily Moynihan, and Katherine Pellerin.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – RICHARD HOULE, RN – REVOKED DECEMBER 17, 2003

Mr. Houle was present to request from the Board a reinstatement hearing. Mr. Houle last worked as a nurse in the summer of 2003. Katherine Pellerin moved and Ivelisse Varrone seconded to grant Mr. Houle's request for a reinstatement hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – JOAN YAW, RN – REVOKED JUNE 18, 1992

Ms. Yaw had informed the Board office that she would not be in attendance at this meeting. Ms. Yaw has submitted a packet of information for the Board to review and make their decision as to whether or not to grant her a reinstatement hearing. Marie Pietrantuono moved and Donna Roberts seconded to deny Ms. Yaw's request for a reinstatement hearing. The packet of information provided is incomplete and there were too many unanswered questions.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – JANET KRUEGER, RN – REVOKED JULY 15, 1989

Ms. Krueger had stated that she would not be attendance at this meeting. Ms. Krueger has submitted a packet of information for the Board to review and make their decision as to whether or not to grant her a reinstatement hearing. Katherine Pellerin moved and Amanda Campbell seconded to grant Ms. Krueger's request. The motion failed as all were opposed with the exception of Katherine Pellerin. A new motion was raised by Maria Pietrantuono, seconded by Donna Roberts, to deny Ms. Krueger's request due to the lack of current information. The motion passed unanimously.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

The Board Members were e-mailed the Draft Memoranda of Decision in the following cases.

JESSICA BLANCHETTE, LPN

Ivelisse Varrone moved and Merrily Moynihan seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Blanchette's license. The motion passed with all in favor. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD.

JENNIFER TELAGE, LPN

Katherine Pellerin moved and Ivelisse Varrone seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Telage's LPN license. The motion passed with all in favor. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD.

SHIRLEY RODD, RN

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Donna Roberts seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Rodd's RN license. The motion passed with all in favor. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – LAURIE PITKIN WOODSTOCK, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Laurie Pitkin Woodstock. Ms. Woodstock was present with counsel, Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Amanda Campbell, to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Chair Bouffard who was opposed. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Order and Notice of Hearing. Attorney Leonhardt was hand delivered the Notice of Hearing, Statement of Charges, and Summary Suspension Order.

INTERIM CONSENT ORDER – MICHAEL APPELL, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with an Interim Consent Order for Michael Appell. Katherine Pellerin moved and Mary Brown seconded to grant the Interim Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the ICO.

PREHEARING REVIEW – NANCY MELLO-LEWIS, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with Prehearing Review documentation regarding Nancy Mello-Lewis. Ms. Mello-Lewis was present with Attorney Michael Kurs. It was the recommendation of the Board that this case does not rise to the level of Board action and that the case should be dismissed.

CONSENT ORDER – CONNIE ZAJAC, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Consent Order for Connie Zajac. Ms. Zajac was not present and did not have representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded that Ms. Zajac's Consent Order be accepted. The motion passed with all in favor with one abstention, Ivelisse Varrone. Chair Bouffard signed the CO.

HEARING – HELENA SPENCER, LPN

The hearing reconvened at 10:35 AM from the February 4, 2009 hearing. Legal Office Attorney Roberta A. Swafford was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Spencer was present with counsel, Attorney Martha Murray. Testimony was provided by Lyn Karsky, RN, Director of Nursing at Kettlebrook. The Board recessed for lunch at which time they reviewed Ms. Bouchard's reinstatement hearing request.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – ROXANNE BOUCHARD, LPN – REVOKED MAY 3, 2006

Ms. Bouchard was present to request from the Board a reinstatement hearing. Katherine Pellerin moved and Mary Brown seconded to grant Ms. Bouchard's request for a reinstatement hearing. The motion passed with one abstention, Veronica Kivela, and with Donna Roberts and Maria Pietrantuono opposed.

The Board returned from lunch at 1:25 PM and testimony in the Helena Spencer continued by Lyn Karsky. The hearing for Helena Spencer concluded at 3:00 PM and was continued to August 19, 2009.

Maria Pietrantuono and Mary Brown left for the day.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING – SUSANNE HOLLY, RN

The hearing convened at 3:10 PM. Legal Office Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Holly was present without representation. Testimony was provided by Ms. Holly.

Ivelisse Varrone moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded that Ms. Holly's license be reinstated. The motion passed unanimously.

Ivelisse Varrone moved and Donna Roberts seconded that Ms. Holly's license be reinstated to probation for four years, with a one-year narcotic key restriction, and the usual probationary terms. The motion passed unanimously.

Amanda Campbell left at this time.

HEARING – AMY ZIEGLER, LPN

The hearing convened at 3:35 PM. Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Ziegler was present pro se. Ms. Ziegler and the Department requested a continuance in this case to negotiate a Consent Order. Chair Bouffard granted the continuance.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present that this meeting be adjourned at 3:40 PM.

The Board of Examiners for Nursing held a meeting on April 15, 2009 at the Hospital for Special Care Research and Education Center, 370 Osgood Avenue, New Britain, Connecticut

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Amanda Campbell, RN
Heidi Darling, LPN
Katherine Pellerin, RN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN
Donna Roberts, LPN
Ivelisse Varrone, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary M. Brown, RN
Veronica Kivela, Public Member
Merrily Moynihan, Public Member

ALSO PRESENT: Jacqueline Hoelle, Assistant Attorney General
Norma D. Gyle, Deputy Commissioner, DPH
Diane Cybulski, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
David Tilles, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Bonnie Pinkerton, RN Nurse Consultant, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from the University of Hartford, Southern Connecticut State University, Central Connecticut State University, and the American International College of Springfield, Massachusetts.

Chair Bouffard and Katherine Pellerin provided the students with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs during lunch break.

CONSENT ORDER – JAMIE CORSO, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Consent Order for Jamie Corso, RN. Ms. Corso was not present and did not have representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded to accept the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order placing Ms. Corso's RN license on probation for one year with quarterly supervisor reports and successful completion of coursework in scope of practice and post-operative management of surgical patients.

CONSENT ORDER – DAWNE CATUCCIO, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Consent Order for Dawne Catuccio. Ms. Catuccio was present with counsel, Attorney Martha Murray. Ivelisse Varrone moved and Donna Roberts seconded to accept Consent Order as presented. The motion passed with all in favor placing Ms. Catuccio's license on probation for four years. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

REQUEST TO LIFT KEY RESTRICTION SPECIFIC TO ADRC FACILITY – DEBORAH MANZI, LPN

Ms. Manzi was present for this discussion. Ms. Manzi has been offered a per diem job at alcohol & Drug Recovery Centers in Hartford (ADRC), a facility that employs several nurses whose licenses are on probation. In time, the per diem job might become a full-time position. However, the job offer is contingent upon Ms. Manzi being able to administer controlled substances. The Director of Nursing has assured the Department that should any issues or suspicions arrive regarding Ms. Manzi's administration of narcotics or controlled substances, the Department would be notified promptly. Katherine Pellerin moved and Maria Pietrantonio seconded to lift the key restriction specific to the ADRC facility only. The motion passed with all in favor.

CONSENT ORDER – PETER TABAKA, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Consent Order for Peter Tabaka. Mr. Tabaka was present with counsel, Attorney Martha Murray. Maria Pietrantonio moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded to accept the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed with all in favor placing Mr. Tabaka's RN license on probation for four years. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – ROSE DUDEK, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Consent Order for Rose Dudek. Ms. Dudek was not present and did not have representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Ivelisse Varrone seconded to accept the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed with all in favor placing Ms. Dudek's RN license on probation for one year with coursework in resident rights and behavioral nursing intervention in the care of a patient with dementia. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – ELAINE McNAMARA, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Consent Order for Elaine McNamara. Ms. McNamara was not present and was not represented. Ivelisse Varrone moved and Donna Roberts seconded to accept the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed unanimously placing Ms. McNamara's RN license on probation for four years. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – LORI ANN BOURRET, RN

Legal Office Attorney David Tilles presented the Board with a Consent Order for Lori Ann Bourret. Ms. Bourret was present with counsel, Attorney Marilyn Clark Pellett. Katherine Pellerin moved and Maria Pietrantonio seconded to accept the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed with all in favor placing Ms. Bourret's RN license on probation for four years. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

HEARING – RYAN TEAGUE, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti was present representing the Department of Public Health. Mr. Teague was present pro se. Testimony was provided by Mr. Teague. Due to the fact that treatment records are still pending, the hearing was continued to June 17, 2009.

HEARING – KIMBERLY BURROWS, RN

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Burrows was present pro se. Testimony was provided by Bonnie Pinkerton, DPH RN Nurse Consultant, and Ms. Burrows.

Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded that Ms. Burrows be found on all charges with the exception of charges 10, 11, and 12. The motion passed unanimously.

Katherine Pellerin moved and Heidi Darling seconded to revoke Ms. Burrows' license. The motion passed with all in favor.

HEARING – LAURIE WOODSTOCK, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Woodstock was present with counsel, Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt. Testimony was provided by Bonnie Pinkerton, DPH RN Nurse Consultant, Timothy Pitkin, Ms. Woodstock's former husband, and Ms. Woodstock.

Marie Pietrantuono moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded that Ms. Woodstock be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded that Ms. Woodstock's probation be extended by two years. The motion failed as all were opposed with the exception of Maria Pietrantuono.

A new motion was raised by Katherine Pellerin, seconded by Donna Roberts to extend Ms. Woodstock's current probation for an additional six months with weekly urine screens. The motion passed with all in favor.

Attorney Leonhardt made a Motion to Vacate the Summary Suspension. Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded to grant the Motion to Vacate the Summary Suspension. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Chair Bouffard who was opposed.

Lunch Break 12:50 PM – 1:20 PM

HEARING – NANCY WALKER, LPN

This is a continuance of the hearing held on October 15, 2008. Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Walker was present pro se. Testimony was provided by Ms. Walker.

Heidi Darling moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded to find Ms. Walker on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Amanda Campbell moved and Donna Roberts seconded that Ms. Walker's license be revoked. The motion passed with all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present that this meeting be adjourned at 2:20 PM.